REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed February 25, 2003. Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 9, 17, 22, and 29. Applicants have also added new dependent Claims 39-43. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants' Claims are Allowable Over *Davis*

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-18, 20-29, and 31-35 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,742,829 to Davis et al. (*"Davis"*). The Examiner also rejects Claims 19, 30, and 36-38 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Davis*.

Davis discloses automatically installing software on heterogeneous client computer systems. (Abstract). In particular, *Davis* discloses, in a distributed system having heterogeneous computers systems or different natural languages, different operating system types, and/or different processor types, automatically installing the appropriate edition of software onto client computers. (Abstract). An edition of software appropriate for execution on a particular processor type, with a particular operating system type, and in a particular natural language is installed by utilizing commands specific to an operating system type. (Abstract). According to *Davis*, the software is automatically installed in response to the availability of a new version of the software, a change in the operating system of the client computer, a change in the associated natural language of the client computer, or input of the administrator of the distributed system. (Abstract). *Davis* also discloses automatically deinstalling (or deleting) software from client computers as well as automatically installing software on client computers. (Column 11, Lines 33-37).

In contrast, independent Claim 1 of this Application, as amended, recites:

> A method for centrally managing plural network clients interfaced with a network host, the method comprising the steps of:
> initiating a login script at a network client, the login script calling a login routine associated with the network host that operationally manages the configuration of the network client;

installing a start-up routine with the login routine, the start-up routine associated with the network client;

using the start-up routine to determine an operating system of the network client; and

managing configuration of the operating system of the network client with the start-up routine according to the operating system of the network client.

Independent Claims 9, 17, 22, and 29, as amended, recite certain substantially similar limitations. *Davis* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest limitations recited in independent Claim 1, whether *Davis* is considered alone or in combination with any other recited reference or with knowledge that was generally available to those having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

As an example, *Davis* nowhere discloses, teaches, or suggests ***managing configuration of an operating system of a network client*** with a start-up routine according to the operating system of the network client, as recited in independent Claim 1. *Davis* merely discloses installing, at heterogeneous client computers, appropriate editions of software for execution with particular operating system types.

For at least these reasons, independent Claim 1, as amended, is patentably distinct from *Davis*, whether *Davis* is considered alone or in combination with any other cited reference, or with knowledge that was generally available to those having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of independent Claims 1, 9, 17, 22, and 29, along with all their dependent claims.
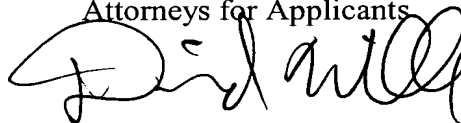
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, and for other reasons clearly apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and full allowance of all pending claims.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney for Applicants, David G. Wille, at the convenience of the Examiner. Mr. Wille can be reached at 214.953.6595.

A check in the amount of $90.00 is enclosed for the addition of five claims over twenty. Applicants believe no other fees are due. Nonetheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 27, 2003

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